DXCC OR WAZ

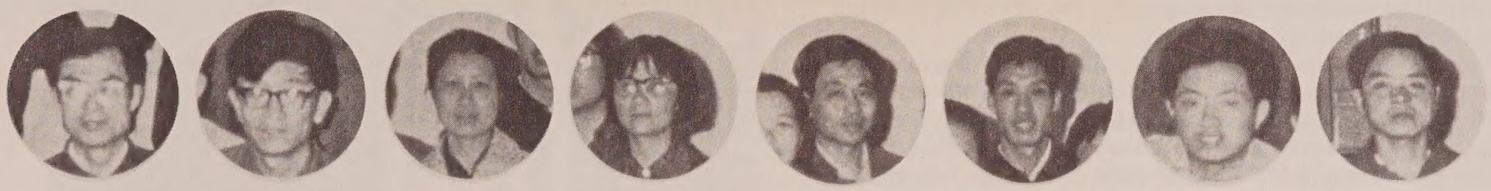
SO. CALIF DX CLUB

Bulletin

April 1983

President: Neil Kaltman, K6SMF □ Vice President: Joe Locascio, K5KT
Treasurer: Don Moses, W6UY □ Secretary: Jan Perkins, N6AW
Directors: Jim Stevenson, KM6B; Don Bostrom, N6IC; Jim Rafferty, N6RJ; Bob Cobb, W6CN (membership); Mike Hudgens, W6YQ (bulletin)

Next meeting: Visalia, April 22-24, the 1983 California International DX Convention, held at the Holiday Inn. At presstime the program included SM0AGD, K8CW, JA1BK, W6KG and W6QL, and W1YL. Program begins at 9 AM Saturday.
Next month: A dinner meeting May 12 at the Old Spaghetti Factory, 5939 Sunset. The price—a mere $6.50 per person.



WHO'S WHO—BY1PK ops include Tong, Yan, YLs Liu and Huang, Liang and Fangen. Xxan and Lml are at BY8AA.
—Tnx *CQ Japan*

Someone is telling tall tales, says Jim Smith

"A spokesman for the other group, a VK6, has been telling people that we lost our logs," Jim Smith, VK9NS, said March 29, "but nothing could be further from the truth. The logs are here. We've already checked them against most of the QSLs we've received."

During the past year, countless stories have reached the U.S. from Australia about Jim Smith, and virtually all turned out to be untrue. Asked why these attempts were made to injure his character and reputation, Smith replied it's because he's a European.

This recent tale is far more serious than the others, however. The timing exposes its intent—that being to divert contributions Smith might receive for his Heard Island expedition.

"Because of this story," Smith continued, "I had to have our logs authenticated upon return to VK. It was unprecedented, but I did it. We're in possession of all the logs, and cards are being written now. We made 14,500 QSOs with 130 countries, including BY1PK. We made the first satellite QSO from Heard, the first RTTY QSO, and Kirsti conducted the first YL operation. All our antennas stayed up. We had three stations, four generators, five operators, and very little propagation."

Lack of propagation was the big disappointment, he said. "We made 150 QSOs on ten meters, worked a half dozen Ws on fifteen. But forty meters was good. Next time I'll take along a four-element forty-meter beam."

Questioned about when next time might be, Smith said: "A lot of people still need Heard. We could go again next year, but with propagation I'm not sure it's worth it."

Poor propagation was bad luck. Smith needed more time on the island; three or four days would have made a difference. "Our greatest disability," he said, "was our lack of flexibility. We couldn't stay longer. Our 17 expeditioners made a very strong team. We carried everything ashore ourselves. Everything worked. But we had to leave when we did."

And even then, they were one month late getting home. "Through the Roaring Forties and the Shrieking Fifties at a snail's pace," he said. "We wanted to QSL rapidly, which we're doing now. As for traveling to Visalia and Dayton, I don't know. I'd like to go there and say what I have to say, but there are obligations here."

More from Jim Smith next month. **—W6YQ**

A QSL bureau that really works

Would an operation similar to that of NJDXA be the solution to our difficulties in California?

By Stan Brokl, N2YQ

A few years back when I went East, I soon found out about the North Jersey DX Assocation being the elite of DXers on the East Coast. What I did not know at first was that this group is also the W2 Bureau, which still delivers my cards and does an outstanding job.

Of late, I have heard grumblings in W6 about its allegedly inefficient QSL Bureau, which, you must understand, is manned by volunteers and may rank as one of the largest private post offices in the land. Their task is monumental and, under the circumstances, I believe they're doing a good job.

Back to the NJDXA: to become a member of this prestigious organization, I learned, you had to be voted in by *every* club member. It was all or nothing. Also, you had to wait for an opening because the NJDXA only allows 48 members maximum. I was fortunate to have W2FG as my sponsor, and after one year in New Jersey I became a member in good standing. One reason for the strict rules governing membership is because they want reliable and responsible people. These will be the sorters. Thus, dedicated DXers are the backbone of the bureau in New Jersey.

Of course, there were many advantages to being a member. One was that you got your cards first. Membership dues were minimal. The NJDXA also has a repeater—funded by the club treasury—which is installed at one of the highest points in New Jersey. The group has two big parties a year for its members—one around the Fourth of July and another during the Christmas holidays—all paid for out of the club treasury. Every year the club sponsors a hospitality suite at the Dayton Ham Convention.

One might ask, how does a club with only 48 members do so much? Well, back in 1953 when the club was formed around the W2 QSL Bureau, it was decided that only money would be taken for credits toward getting QSL cards. That turned out to be a wise decision. In fact, the last year I was a member, the club was trying to decide how many T-bills to buy with the trust funds.

So, if in the opinion of those who use it, the W6 Bureau is not satisfactory, perhaps a group similar to NJDXA should be formed. One thing I learned is, if you really want a good QSL bureau, the management must be responsive and the members must be reliable and responsible. Otherwise, it's not going to function.

Keep it a rare one, says I0MGM

IA0KM on next month

By Irv Emig, W6GC

May is the next planned Knights of Malta operation, according to Mario Gallavotti, I0MGM, who was in Los Angeles recently.

His remarks were noted March 26, following the TRW Swap Meet when 28 local DXers met for lunch and a visit with Mario, one of 1A0KM's five operators (the others are I0JX, I0AMU, I0IJ and I0MXM). Mario said it is the intent to keep 1A0KM fairly rare, although the grand total of more than 18,000 contacts they have made since the station first came on in November of 1980 does not seem to bear this out.

CW contacts are handled by Mario and I0JX. They also take care of QSLing, and Mario said quite a few W6 stations in the log for early operations have not yet requested cards. He added that there are still some QSLs to be answered but they will go out soon. Mario reported an interest in RTTY at 1A0KM. It was used during the January 1981 operation and probably will be again in May, he said.

All five operators, incidentally, belong to the order. The Sovereign Military Order of Malta, it is correctly called, has 10,000 religious and lay members worldwide, of whom 1,000 are American.

The task of getting 1A0 accredited as a new country required 10 months and reams of documentation. Mario is an attorney, which helped considerably. Probably the clincher came while W1XX, the ARRL Communications Department manager, was traveling in Europe and made a special trip to Rome to visit the Knights of Malta enclave. Shortly after this visit, it became official.

Mario left a 26-minute videotape (recorded European standards so dubbing onto U.S. equipment will be necessary before we can view it; Dave Bell, W6AQ, is checking into this). Included are scenes from the last two operations as well as some formal Knights of Malta pageantry.

Tony, I0JX, expects to be at Visalia for the upcoming DX convention. Mario said there was also a slim chance that he will too. His March visit to the Los Angeles area was to set up a law office for his firm, so we may be seeing more of him.

ANOTHER TIME, ANOTHER PLACE—This was the scene 18 years ago when the DX Convention was held at the Town & Country Hotel in Fresno. Pictured here are Frank Cuevas, W6AOA; Larry Brockman, N6AR (then WA6EPQ); Chuck Bailey, W7YU (W6BXL); Jerry Hagen, N6AV (WA6GLD); and Stu Meyer, W2GHK.

RECENTLY CANONIZED, Maximilian Kolbe is the first licensed radio amateur to become a saint. He was SP3RN when the Gestapo arrested him in 1939 and sent him to Auschwitz. One year and eight months later, when one of his fellow prisoners, the head of a large family, was selected for death, Fr. Maximilian volunteered to go in his place.

—Tks, SP5HS and W6YY

6ANN, CIRCA 1924—This was the rig of Bill Adams, now W6BA. With a modernized version of the above, Bill made the first West Coast to East Coast contact on 10 meters with 2JN on April 29, 1928.

DX news

Tom Wong, VE7BC, was in Beijing in late March. He had taken a TS930S to **BY1PK** and was said to be giving instruction in the art of handling large pileups. A sizable contingent of North American stations worked him March 30 during a two-hour stint when he transmitted CW on 14170 and took SSB calls 14200-220. BY1PK is still in the old location with the low yagi. Antennas are up at the new building but it's not yet ready for occupany—no power at present. Tom's reported to be setting up stations in BY4 and BY7.

Chito, DU1CK, says he and his associates are taking a work-related trip to the Spratly Islands the third or fourth week in April. They've been assigned **DX0IS** but may request a 1S prefix to better their chances of it counting for DXCC.

BY8AA shows at 01z around 14050... **BY1PK** worked at the same time on 14019... **FB8WI** 14020 1330...**JY8KG** 14025 1700... **JT1AN** 7007 1400 frequently.

Activity reports

K6YRA: **C6ADV** 3789 0215, **JD1BBG** 3796 1448 (March 1); **FR0FLO** 7082 1439 (March 4); **FM7CD** 7074 0402, **ZF2FL** 7098 0406, **V3CH** 7097 0410, **CN8CX** 7084 0450, **OA8CW** 7182 0653, **T32AB** 7093 0705, **KH0AC** 7091 1333, **VE7ZG/VS6** 3786 1436, **DU6BG** 3795 1439 (all March 5); **FG7AS** 7038 0507, **UK2PRC** 7044 0509, **OH0AM** 7049 0511, **HG5A** 7069 0519, **ZD7BW** 7077 0651, **H44SH** 7088 0652, **ED9EA** 7097 0700, **T30AC** 7071 0706, **ZK2RS** 3785 1411, **VS5YY** 3795 1421 (all March 6); **VS5YY** 7078 1508 (March 8); **FM7WS** 3799 0219 (March 9); **9M6YY** 3796 1404 (March 10); **YJ8RG** 7197 0604 (March 11); **ZK1DA** 3797 1429 (March 17); **KC6SZ** 7085 1410 (March 19); **KC6SZ** 3795 1259, **KC6IN** (East) 3798 1306 (March 20); **YB0ACP** 7065 1451 (March 24); **UK2RDX** 7079 1456, **YB2BOT** 7086 1417 (March 27).

N6AW: **A71AE** 7003 1459 (March 4); **UG6GAI** 7001 1503 (March 7); **ST2SA** 14212 1527 (March 15); **7P8CR** (Box 212, Maseru) 14209 1546 (March 25); **JY8KG** 14262 1501, **5H3BH** 28565 1818, **5Z4CM** 28605 1853, **ZB2HM** 28605 1902, **HZ1HZ** 21265 2029 (March 27); **BY1PK** 14170 0322 (March 30).

KM6B: **JW4GN** (via LA9VX) 14214 0239 (Feb 20); **ZB2FK** 28545 1747, **5H3BH** 28569 1754 (Feb 24); **ON6BC/C9** 14194 1600 (March 2); **CN8CX** 7082 0444, **6W8DX** 3796 0651, **ZK2RS** 7081 1028, **FR0FLO** 7084 1453, **UK2ROX** 7073 1513 (March 5); **9X5WP** 21364 1932 (March 6); **VS5YY** 7078 1515 (March 7); **T26SH** 3800 1427 (March 11); **JD1ABZ** 3802 1452 (March 12); **9M6YY** 3793 1400 (March 13); **9M6YY** 7064 1157, **ZK2RS** 3794 1218 (March 14); **KC6SZ** 3796 1220 and 7079 1224, **VS5HG** 3794 1317, **UA0CDX** 3640 1329 (March 23); **ZS5ZM** 7059 0434, **CQ4NH** 7089 0547, **H44R** 7073 0719, **EA7EL** 7100 0714, **6W8DS** 7066 0718, **UB5IHF** 7074 1420 (March 26); **YZ1EXY** 7078 0339 , **YO3RU** 7078 0329, **HG5A** 7095 0349, **UP2NA** 7092 0404, **LZ3B** 7047 0407 and 10 other Europeans until after 0700, **CN8CO** 7069 0624, **VK9NS** 7089 0706, **YB2OT** 7073 1444, **YT3A** 7080 1456, **GB4OX** 28540 1612 (this and 10 more Europeans worked with beam heading at 90 degrees) (all March 27).

(Deadline for next month: April 29)

Club notes

Get ready to congratulate **Roger Mace, W6RW**: he's worked 101 countries on 160, has 99 confirmed and expects the remaining two any day. "Number 1 DXCC for W6," he says, "here I come!"

Irv Emig, W6GC, SCDXC rep to the L.A. Council of Amateur Radio Clubs, picked up the following items of interest at a recent meeting:

□ The W6 QSL bureau handled 50,000 cards and envelopes during January and February. New letter handlers were announced for several letters, including *R*.

□ **Tony England, W0ORE,** an astronaut aboard an upcoming Sky Lab mission, will be banquet speaker at the 1983 Division Convention, held September 2-4 at the Anaheim Marriott Hotel. **Dave Sumner, K1ZZ,** the new ARRL general manager, will be in attendance as well.

Is there a red dot adjacent to your mailing label on this bulletin? If so, you haven't paid your $12 yearly dues and on May 2 you are to be dropped from the roster. The red dot means you will receive no more bulletins. Send a check to our treasurer, **Don Moses, W6UY,** 5618 Scotwood Drive, Palos Verdes Peninsula 90274.

The SCDXC *Bulletin* has a new distribution chief, **Chris Conner, KA6ISX**, a very good man on the Apple II as well as the key. Chris recently upgraded to extra and, while passing through downtown Tokyo a couple of weeks ago, rewarded himself with a TS930S. The club thanks **Dick Emrich, NN6U,** for the time he spent handling distribution during these past 13 months.

Minutes of the last meeting

By Bob Cobb, W6CN (for N6AW)

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Neil Kaltman, K6SMF, SCDXC president.

Cleyon, AD6P, reported on our downed repeater. Plans are to get it back on the air—first at K6SVL's Palos Verdes QTH and then possibly at a commercial site on Mt. Lukens.

Neil presented proposals by the board of directors for discussion and voting by the membership:

□ Given the growing importance of the AD6P repeater to club members, that the repeater no longer be supported by contributions and the repeater fund be made an integral part of the SCDXC budget. The vote was almost unanimously in favor.

□ To install a 20-second timer to be used at peak DX times, such as sunrise and sunset. This was tabled by a motion from the floor to defer all "bells and whistles" on the repeater until after it is back on the air and operating satisfactorily. The motion from the floor was unanimously passed.

□ To make a donation to the recent expeditions to Heard Island based on the amount of time spent on the island: $400 to the IDXF group, $200 to the Jim Smith group. A show of hands revealed about 2/3 of the club members worked Heard. Another poll surprisingly showed about half worked the IDXF group and about half worked Jim Smith. The original proposal was defeated 2 to 1 and after several new proposals it was finally decided that equal amounts of $300 be donated to each group.

Irv, W6GC, gave a report on the March 3 meeting of the LA Area Council of Amateur Radio Clubs.

Forest (Hy) Choate, K6HY, said goodbye to all. He is moving north to Crescent City, California: "Can't make Honor Roll from here," he said.

Joe, K5KT, introduced Jack Hollander, N6UC, a member who showed a composite set of slides about his trips to VK and JA. Included were several views of JA1BK's home, station and antenna farm.

After a month's wait, we got to see Victor Rivera's program about the Cook Islands. Randy, WA0QZW, brought the slides, a tape narration and, via a 15-meter to local 147.195 repeater link, had Victor, ZK1CG, on the air to apologize for missing the last meeting and to introduce his program. The presentation described both his home island of Rarotonga and his expedition to the North Cook island of Manihiki.

The drawing for prizes went as follows:

ARRL Data Book to KB6WI, *Hints & Kinks* to NN6U, *ARRL Antenna Book* to W6ED, DX Edge to W6NNB, Call Directory to KM6B, *80-meter DX Book* to W6RT, *RFI Book* to NC6H, Miller lowpass filter to W6AM, balun to NN6U, DX Edge to WA6LOD, and 2-meter mag mount antenna to W6DQH.

DXCC WAZ
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Bulletin

Published monthly by the Southern California DX Club.

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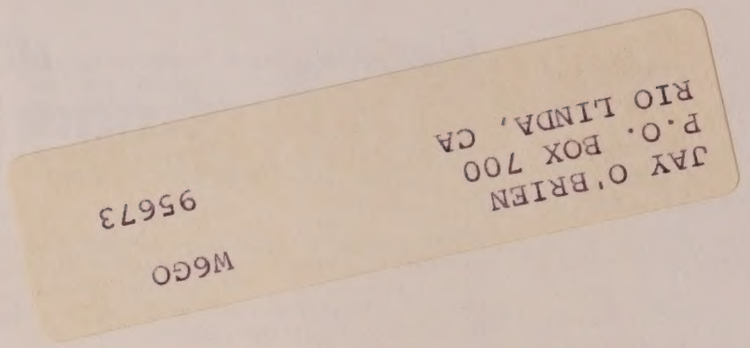

Club members on Honor Roll

Mixed

315: **W6AM** (366), **W6EE** (362), **W6RT** (358), **W6ET** (353), **JA1BK** (348), **N6FX** (348), **W6REH** (347), **OH2BH** (343), **N6AV** (342), **K6YRA** (341), **W6EUF** (340), **W7CB** 335. 314: **K6OJ** (361), **W6TZD** (360), **W6BA** (359), **W6KZL** (356), **W6RKP** (355), **W6KG** (351), **K6EV** (346), **W6YA** (345), **W6FW** (344), **K6QH** (340). 313: **W6HFL** (344), **N6AR** (343), **N6GM** (342). 312: **W6ID** (357), **W7AO** (353), **N6UC** (331), **W6GC** (328). 311: **W6UQQ** (349), **W6KZS** (339), **W6QL** (335), **YV5BBU** (334). 310: **W6HX** (359). 309: **W6YMV** (340), **W6EJJ** (332), **N6RJ** (324), **W6UY** (324). 308: **W6SN** (347), **N6AW** (326), **W6AE** (326). 306: **W6MUM** (331).

Phone

315: **W6AM** (364), **W6REH** (343), **W6EUF** (339). 314: **W6RKP** (349). 313: **JA1BK** (344), **W6HFL** (344), **K6YRA** (339). 312: **W6FW** (341), **N6UC** (331). 310: **N6AR** (334). 309: **W6YMV** (339), **W6KZS** (331). 307: **N6AW** (325).

CW

298: **WA6TLA** (303).

Classified

CUSTOMIZED QSLs by W6BA, $19.75 for 1000 plus shipping. No standard forms. We try to print what you want. Black ink on color 110-pound stock. Write for samples. Bill Adams, W6BA; Star Route 2, 29 Palms, CA 92277.

WANTED: 75S3 rcvr with double xtal deck and 200-Hz filter; round emblem preferred. Don, W6AM (213) 424-3459 or 377-4120.

CX7A—late California serial number in mint condition with RIT mod; zener and MOV protected; spare 8072 final; original owner: $800. Roger, W6RW (213) 654-3714.

Contest calendar

May 7-8	USSR CQ-M
May 7-8	Seville WW
May 7	World Telecomm. Ph.
May 14	World Telecomm. CW
May 28-29	CQ WW WPX CW
June 18-19	All Asian Phone
July 9-10	Radiosport
July 16-17	SEANET CW
Aug 6-7	WAE CW
Aug 13-14	SEANET Phone
Aug 27-28	All Asian CW

—W1WY

State of the bands

With the sun just at the equinox, the best overall DX conditions of spring are here. The openings are later as the day lengthens, and they're more predictable.

Ten meters opens as early at 14z to Europe and Africa with the peak about 17z. After a disturbance, check long path about 05-06z. If you hear Zone 18 stations at 02z, check 03-0330z for Zones 17, 21 and 22 (usually at 330 degrees). South America can be heard from our sunrise until their sunset (14-23z). South Pacific from 01-06z at times.

Fifteen meters follows a similar pattern to that of ten, with openings more sustained. Also check north 0430-06z for Mideast openings. Frequent long path signals at 1430-1530z from Africa.

Twenty is coming back to life with Africa starting before sunset (01-04z). Watch for Europe and Middle East short path at their sunrise (05-07z). Morning long path is fading but there are readable signals 14-16z. Zone 22 is usually at 225 degrees first and 330 later on. Big Asia openings occur at sunrise (14z).

Forty meters has characteristics of 20 (if conditions on 20 seem poor, check 40 carefully) but everything is usually more difficult to work. JAs are strong from 09-15z. South America gets loud about 05z until their sunrise (12z).

Eighty-meter openings are becoming scarce with shorter nights and more noise. Darkness here with sunrise at the other end is the best bet (i.e., Africa short path 05-06z).

—N6AW

N4XX propagation

A, H, L, B, D—Above, High, Low, Below, Disturbed

3	H	10	B	17	H/L	24	H	29	H/L
4	H	11	L	18	H	25	D	30	H
5	H	12	L	19	H	26	B	1	H
6	H	13	H/L	20	H	27	H/L	2	H
7	L	14	L	21	H/A*	28	L	3	H
8	B	15	L	22	A	*Begins		4	L
9	D	16	L	23	A	54-day forecast		5	B